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INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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C-O-N-F-I-D-E-N-T-I-A-L

50X1-HUM

COUNTRY Bulgaria

REPORT

SUBJECT Port Observations at Varna

DATE DISTR. 14 July 1960

NO. PAGES 5

DATE OF INFO.

PLACE & DATE ACC

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SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

Warships

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2. [redacted] the following warships [redacted] called [redacted] at Varna: 50X1-HUM

a. One small submarine [redacted] was moored to the eastern side of the naval base (No. 5 on Sketch).

b. Two large submarines [redacted] were moored to the northeastern side of the naval base (No. 4 on Sketch). Each weekday morning [redacted] two and sometimes all three submarines left the inner harbor [redacted] 50X1-HUM
The submarines were the first ships to leave the inner harbor each morning and they proceeded in line-ahead formation. [redacted] 50X1-HUM
[redacted] one of the large submarines moored alongside the northeastern side of the naval base. 50X1-HUM

c. Four minesweepers [redacted] were berthed at the Southern Mole (No. 7 on Sketch). Each morning these ships sortied from the inner harbor. They did not return until late afternoon. On several occasions the minesweepers took on fuel at the depot at the northern side of the entrance to the Devno (Varna) Canal (No. 9 on Sketch). [redacted] three of the [redacted] 50X1-HUM

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STATE	X	ARMY	#	X	NAVY	#	X	AIR	#	X	NSA	X	FBI
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minesweepers moored by their sterns to the Southern Mole with two other ships moored to port of them. [redacted] the fourth minesweeper berthed at the northern side of the naval base (No. 3 on Sketch).² 50X1-HUM

- d. Destroyer GEORGI DIMITROV and two smaller identical destroyers³ were moored by their sterns to the Eastern Mole (No. 1 on Sketch). Each day [redacted] the three destroyers sortied. [redacted] When the destroyers moored they first dropped their starboard anchors and then made fast to a buoy with a chain from their port side. When the ships got underway they took in the chain from the buoy and then hoisted their starboard anchors. It was noted that the destroyers maneuvered quickly and smoothly and moored and unmoored without the aid of tugs. The two smaller destroyers in particular made sternway rapidly. 50X1-HUM

- e. One landing craft moored by her bow to the Southern Mole (No. 7 on Sketch). [redacted] 50X1-HUM
- f. Several small craft were on slipways at the eastern side of the naval base. [redacted] 50X1-HUM
- g. One small motor torpedo boat was lifted into the water from land around the naval base by a large floating crane. [redacted] 50X1-HUM
- h. Several small warships were moored by their sterns to the northern side of the naval base (No. 3 on Sketch). [redacted] 50X1-HUM

Shipbuilding and Repair

3. A 4500-ton tanker was on the slipway southwest of the small warships berthed at the northern side of the naval base (Paragraph 2h above). Behind the tanker the white mast of a Soviet freighter under repair at the dockyard was visible. [redacted] a second tanker outside the harbor.² This tanker was identical to that seen on the slipway at the shipyard. [redacted] the tanker was built at the shipyard and her engines had come from East Germany. [redacted] an unloaded merchant ship entered the shipyard at the entrance to the Devno (Varna) Canal. [redacted] this ship was going to be repaired. 50X1-HUM

Harbor and Coastal Defense Installations

4. At the entrance to the harbor on the Southern Mole is a signal station that checks ships entering and leaving the harbor (No. 8 on Sketch). The station is manned by sailors and equipped with signal lamps of different colors for communicating with ships. [redacted] On the southern shore of Varna Bay across from the lighthouse there is a coastal defense gun of approximately 28 cm. On the ridge above Varna beach a second coastal defense gun of the same caliber is mounted on a turret. 50X1-HUM

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2. The minesweepers are actually ARTILLERIST [redacted] and KRONSTADT class [redacted] patrol craft (PC). The two other ships moored to port of the patrol craft are a double ended caique-type miscellaneous service craft (YAG) and a 9610 class district patrol craft (YP).

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3. The smaller destroyers are RIGA class escort vessels (DE).
4. The landing craft is a German MFP class landing craft utility (LCU) 50X1-HUM
now used as a miscellaneous service craft (YAG).
also shows a naval tug (small) (YTL) not previously identified.
5. The tankers are presumed to be of
the 4000 dwt ton FEDYA GUBANOV class being built at the Georgi Dimitrov
Shipyard for Soviet account. 50X1-HUM

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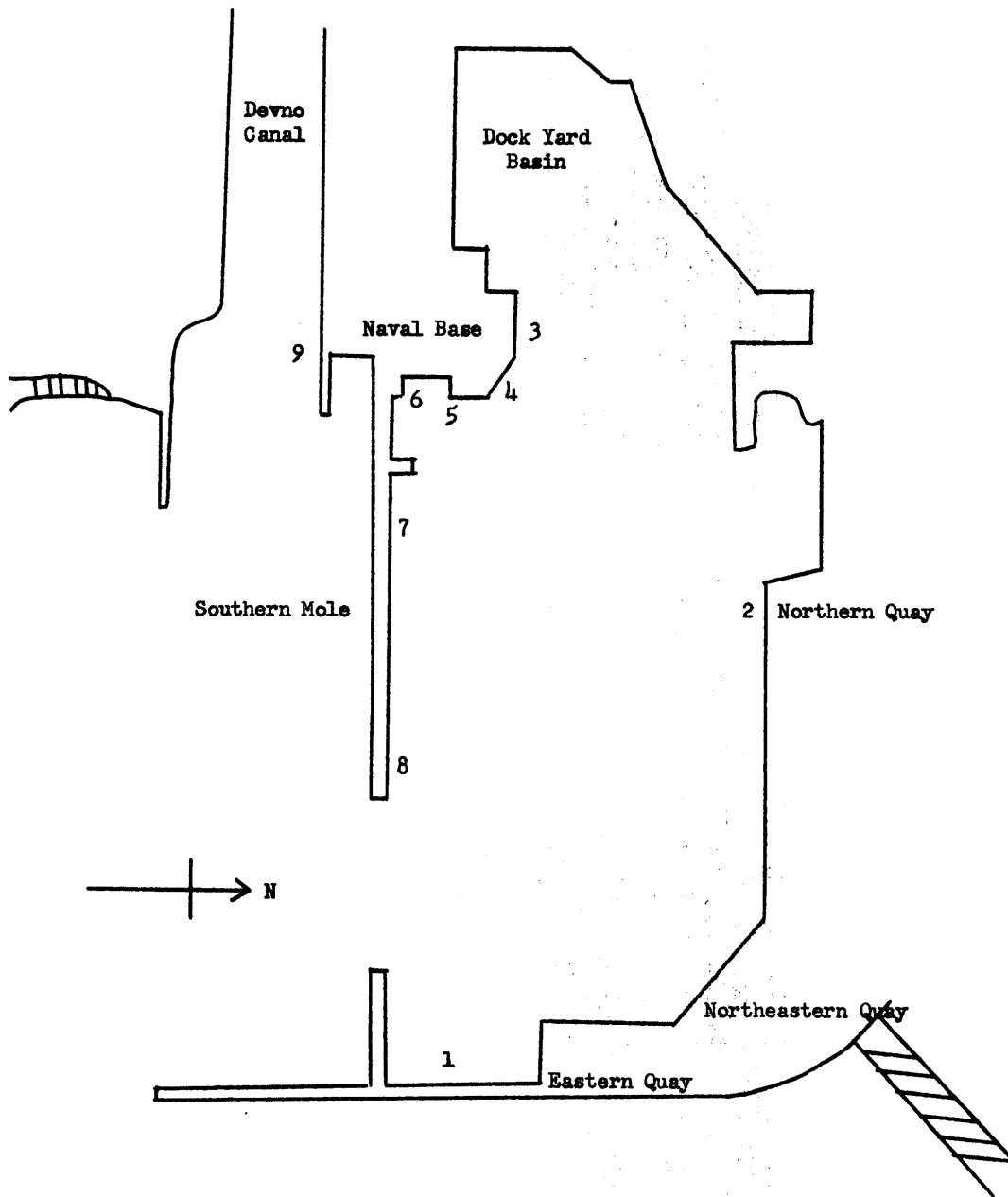
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Sketch of Varna



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